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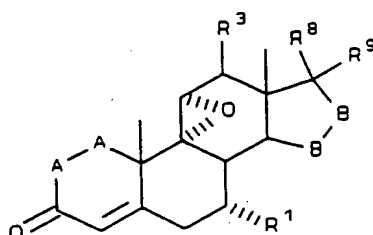
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PROCESSES FOR PREPARATION OF 9,11-EPOXY STEROIDS AND INTERMEDIATES USEFUL THEREIN

Abstract of the Disclosure

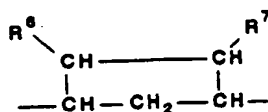
Multiple novel reaction schemes, novel process
steps and novel intermediates are provided for the
5 synthesis of epoxymexrenone and other compounds of
Formula I



I

wherein:

- 10 -A-A- represents the group $-\text{CHR}^4-\text{CHR}^5-$ or $-\text{CR}^4=\text{CR}^5-$
 R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from
the group consisting of hydrogen, halo,
hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy,
hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl,
15 cyano, aryloxy,
 R^1 represents an alpha-oriented lower
alkoxycarbonyl or hydroxyalkyl radical,
-B-B- represents the group $-\text{CHR}^6-\text{CHR}^7-$ or an
alpha- or beta- oriented group:



III

20

where R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from
the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, lower
alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl,
hydroxycarbonyl, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl,
25 acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, and

25

30

R⁸ and R⁹ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, lower alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, or R⁸ and R⁹ together comprise a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring structure, or R⁸ or R⁹ together with R⁶ or R⁷ comprise a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring structure fused to the pentacyclic D ring.